have taken part in the election campaign in Nepal.

Afghan Nationals in Orissa

2198. SHRI BHAGABAN MAJHI : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large number of Afghan and Iranian citizens living in Nawarangpur District of Orissa ;

(b) if so, the number of those people ;

(c) whether they have been living without visa ; and

(d) if so, the steps taken to evict them ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA) : (a) to (d) According to the information made available by the Government of Orissa, there are only Afghan families living in Nawarangpur District of Orissa an there is no Iranian national in that District. Six Afghan nationals are staying on expired visas and extension of their stay permits is still pending for consideration. They are pre-1954 entrants.

Indira—Mujib Agreement

2199. SHRI NYODEK YONGGAM : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the salient features of Indira—Mujib Agreement of 1972 for lasting peace between India and Bangladesh ;

(b) whether there was any agreement on provisional settlement of Chakma and Hazing refugees in Arunachal Pradesh ; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA) : (a) The salient features of the Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Peace between India and Bangladesh of March 19, 1972, popularly known as the Indira—Mujib Agreement are promotion of lasting peace and friendship, reaffirmation of faith in non-alignment and peaceful co-existence, determination to maintain regular contact on matters of mutual interest and development of cooperation in the economic, scientific, technical and cultural fields.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

विदेशों के साथ राजनयिक संबंध

2200. **श्री चिमनभाई हरिभाई शुक्ल** : क्या विदेश मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) वर्ष 1994 के दौरान किन-किन देशों के साथ व्यापार संबंधी और द्वि-पक्षीय समझौते किये गये हैं;

(ख) वर्ष 1994 के दौरान किन-किन देशों के साथ राजनयिक संबंध स्थापित किये गए हैं;

(ग) किन-किन देशों से आयात-निर्यात के प्रस्ताव प्राप्त हुए हैं तथा विदेशी मुद्रा अर्जित की गई है ; और

(घ) सरकार किन-किन देशों के साथ राजनयिक संबंध स्थापित करने का विचार रखती है ?

विदेश मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री आर० एल० भाटिया) : (क) सूचना एकत्र की जा रही है और सदन की मेज पर रख दी जाएगी ।

(ख) वर्ष 1994 के दौरान जिन देशो के साथ राजनयिक संबंध स्थापित किए गए वे हैं; प्रिंसीपैलिटी ऑफ एन्डोरा, होन्डुरास, क्रोशिया और बोस्निया-हर्जेगोविना ।

(ग) सूचना एकत्र की जा रही है और सदन की मेज पर रख दी जाएगी ।

(घ) जिन देशों के साथ सरकार का राजनयिक संबंध स्थापित करने का प्रस्ताव है वे हैं; माइक्रोनेशिया के संघीय राज्य और डोमिनिकन गणराज्य ।

European Union's Document on Kashmir

2201. SHRI SANJAY DALMIA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether European union lists Kashmir among the three regional districts in its draft document "Towards a New Asia" strategy ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED) : (a) and (b) A working paper entitled "Towards a New Asia Strategy" prepared by the European Commission in July, 1994 contains an observation that the European Union should seek to make a positive contribution to regional security dialogues in Asia. In this context, a reference is made in the paper to regional disputes in Korea, Spratly and Kashmir. The paper represents the views of the European Commission only. Government have drawn the attention of the German Presidency that any reference to Kashmir as a "regional dispute" can only serve to encourage Pakistan to seek internationalisation of the Kashmir issue which would not be in line with the stated consensus position of the European Union

which supports a genuine bilateral dialogue between India and Pakistan to resolve all matters between the two countries. The European Commission's paper was considered by the European Union's Council of Ministers at its meeting on 28 November, 1994. The Council adopted its own paper entitled "Asia Strategy of the European Union" which does not contain any reference to Kashmir as a regional dispute.

U.N. Peace Keeping Operation

2202. SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE:

SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India made a strong plea at the recent U.N. General Assembly Session that the United Nations peace keeping operations which have outlived their mandate including the UNMOGIP should be withdrawn; and

(b) if so, in what precise terms such plea was made and in what context?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) and (b) In a statement made in the Special Political and Decolonisation Committee of the current UN General Assembly under the agenda item on "Comprehensive Review of the Whole Question of Peace Keeping Operation in all their aspects". The Indian delegate stated that there should be no hesitation in ending those operations which have been overtaken by events or become inconsistent with their mandates.

Abduction of Indian Fisherman by Pakistan Maritime Agency

2203. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Pakistani steamer intruded into the Indian territorial waters of Okha Port in Kutch District of Gujarat on November 8, 1994 and the Pakistani Maritime Agency (PMA) abducted about 70 Indian fishermen alongwith their 10 fishing boats,

(b) whether it is also a fact that when the PMA were taking the Indian fishermen towards Pakistan the latter cut the ropes, ran to the shore and swam back to the country;

(c) if so, the details in this regard;

(d) whether Government have lodged any protest with the Government of Pakistan for intrusion of the Pakistani Steamer into the Indian territorial waters and abduction Indian fishermen along with their boat;

(e) if so, what is Pakistan's reaction in this regard; and

(f) what is the number of Indian fishermen who have been abducted and at present kept in Pakistani jails and what steps Government have taken for their release?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) to (f) No incident of intrusion by a Pakistani steamer into Indian territorial waters occurred on November 8, 1994.

Government have taken up with the Government of Pakistan the various incidents of apprehension of Indian fishermen by Pak authorities in the recent period.

According to information available, there are at present 195 Indian fishermen in Pak custody. Government are making sustained efforts to seek the release of these fishermen. The modalities in this regard are being worked out through diplomatic channels.

UN Observer Group to Leave the L.A.C.

2204. DR. NAUNIHAL SINGH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are seriously considering a proposal to ask the United Nations observer group stationed at the Line of Actual Control (LAC) between India and Pakistan in Kashmir to leave the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that Pakistan has requested that the strength of UN Observer Group at the LAC should be increased from 35 to atleast 200, if so, what are the reactions of Government thereto;

(d) whether it is also a fact that the Group's report are highly biased and give a one-sided picture of what is happening in the valley; and

(e) if so, what actions have been taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Yes, Sir. Government's view is that after the signing of the Simla Agreement, which established the Line of Control in Jammu and Kashmir. UNMOGIP has no role to play, and, therefore, the question of augmenting its strength does not arise.

(d) and (e) UNMOGIP's reports to the UN Secretary General are confidential, but its mandate is only to monitor violations